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Title:

Speech opening Naracoorte and District Youth Centre

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SPEECH BY THE PREMIER, MR. DUNSTAN, OPENING NARACOORTE AND DISTRICT
YOUTH CENTRE.

5.8.73

MR. PEAKE, MR. O'CONNOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

THANKS VERY MUCH FOR ASKING ME HERE TODAY. THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT THIS FINE NEW CENTRE IS ONE OF THE LARGEST COMMUNITY PROJECTS EVER UNDERTAKEN IN NARACOORTE AND THE WAY IN WHICH IT HAS SO RAPIDLY TAKEN SHAPE IS A MEASURE OF THE ENTHUSIASM AND DRIVE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE DISTRICT.

THE STATE GOVERNMENT IS WELL AWARE OF THE VITAL ROLE PLAYED BY VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS THROUGHOUT SOUTH AUSTRALIA IN PROVIDING FACILITIES AND LEADERSHIP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACTIVITIES. BUT I THINK THE JOB THAT THE BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION, ROTARY, APEX AND LIONS HAVE DONE HERE IN DEVELOPING THIS PROJECT IS REALLY OUTSTANDING.

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I THINK IT IS ESSENTIAL TO GET THIS KIND OF INVOLVEMENT. GOVERNMENT HAS A PART TO PLAY IN ASSISTING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE - AND WE GAVE \$5,000 FOR THIS CENTRE IN JULY LAST YEAR.

BUT THE MAIN RESPONSIBILITY WILL CONTINUE TO REST WITH LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS, ONLY THEY ARE PROPERLY SENSITIVE TO THE PARTICULAR NEEDS OF YOUTH IN THEIR DISTRICT, ABLE TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY LEADERSHIP AND POSSESS THE MOTIVATION TO INITIATE AND PROVIDE ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH.

CERTAINLY THE GOVERNMENT IS INTENT ON INCREASING AND WIDENING IN SCOPE THE RANGE OF FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO YOUNG PEOPLE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA. WE SPENT \$99-THOUSAND ON GRANTS OF VARIOUS KINDS IN THE YEAR TO JUNE 1972 AND IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR JUST ENDED THIS WAS DOUBLED TO \$200-THOUSAND.

I BELIEVE IT'S MONEY VERY WELL SPENT. WE HAVE TO PROVIDE RECREATION FACILITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN THE TWELVE TO EIGHTEEN AGE GROUP, AND WE HAVE TO PROVIDE FOR THE CHANGING NATURE OF THOSE NEEDS IN A DEVELOPING, DYNAMIC SOCIETY.

AND NOWHERE IS THE ACCELERATING PACE OF CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT MORE OBVIOUS THAN IN THE SOUTH EAST - A REGION OF AUSTRALIA WITH A GREAT FUTURE.

THE STATE GOVERNMENT, AS YOU KNOW, IS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO A POLICY OF DECENTRALISATION. WE BELIEVE THAT ONLY IN THIS WAY CAN WE SECURE BETTER LIVING CONDITIONS FOR AN INCREASING POPULATION AND, AT THE SAME TIME, STRENGTHEN OUR OVERALL STATE ECONOMY.

THE SOUTH EAST IS VITAL TO THAT POLICY. THIS REGION, OR WHAT HAS BEEN TERMED THE "GREEN TRIANGLE" OF NARACOORTE, MOUNT GAMBIER AND MILLICENT WILL BE ONE OF OUR THREE REGIONAL GROWTH CENTRES.

PRELIMINARY WORK ON A DETAILED STUDY OF LIKELY FUTURE DEVELOPMENT HAS BEGUN AND WE SHALL EVENTUALLY SEEK COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT.

IN THE MEANTIME THE STATE GOVERNMENT IS DOING ALL IT CAN TO STIMULATE DECENTRALISATION TO THE SOUTH EAST AND TO SECURE PROPER DEVELOPMENT FOR THIS AREA. GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, SUCH AS MINES, FORESTS, COMMUNITY WELFARE AND THE REGISTRAR OF MOTOR VEHICLES HAVE OFFICES IN THE SOUTH EAST AND THE STATE GOVERNMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION IS INVESTIGATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OFFICE HERE.

SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO NARACORTE, THE GOVERNMENT WAS HAPPY TO ASSIST WITH THE ASSURANCES NECESSARY TO GET THE MEATWORKS PROJECT OFF THE GROUND, AND LATER, THROUGH THE HOUSING TRUST TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL HOUSING FOR THE WORKFORCE.

THE MEATWORKS OBVIOUSLY WILL PROVIDE A MAJOR BOOST FOR NARACORTE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA.

ONE OTHER FIELD IN WHICH GROWTH SEEMS TO ME TO BE ASSURED IS THAT OF TOURISM. ON THE NATIONAL AND STATE SCENE THE TOURISM INDUSTRY IS EXPERIENCING BOOM CONDITIONS AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT AREAS SUCH AS THE SOUTH EAST CAN GET THEIR FAIR SHARE OF THE TAKE. NARACORTE WITH ITS CAVES WILL OBVIOUSLY BENEFIT AND IT'S APPARENT THERE IS A GOOD DEAL OF AWARENESS LOCALLY OF THE POTENTIAL VALUE OF TOURISM

TO THE TOWN.

BEFORE LEAVING TODAY I'M GOING TO VISIT THE MILL MUSEUM.

THIS IS THE KIND OF DEVELOPMENT WHICH WILL OBVIOUSLY BENEFIT LOCAL TOURISM AND WHAT HAS BEEN DONE HERE IS ATTRACTING ATTENTION WELL BEYOND NARACORTE. DR. INGLIS, THE DIRECTOR OF THE ENVIRONMENT, WHO OPENED IT, TELLS ME IT'S ONE OF THE BEST HE'S EVER SEEN.

BUT IN PLANNING FOR TOURIST GROWTH I THINK ONE WORD OF WARNING HAS TO BE SOUNDED. IT'S NO GOOD TRYING TO SELL JUST NARACORTE. SUCCESS WILL BE AT BEST, LIMITED. PEOPLE NOWADAYS LOOK FOR AN AREA RATHER THAN A SPECIFIC LOCATION IN WHICH TO SPEND THEIR HOLIDAYS. IN ADDITION TO THE OBVIOUS ECONOMIES OF SCALE, PROMOTION OF A REGION IS LIKELY TO HAVE A GREATER EFFECT ON CAPTURING A WOULD-BE VISITOR'S IMAGINATION THAN A SINGLE PLACE OR INDIVIDUAL ATTRACTION.

THUS, I THINK, THE SOUTH EAST SOLD WELL AND LOUDLY AS A HOLIDAY CONCEPT EMBRACING THE BLUE LAKE, COONAWARRA, THE NARACOORTE CAVES AND THE FORESTS WILL GET FAR BETTER RESULTS THAN THE VARIOUS COMMUNITIES TRYING TO MAKE THEIR NECESSARILY SMALLER VOICES HEARD SEPARATELY.

THERE IS ONE OTHER MATTER OF CONCERN TO THE SOUTH EAST AS A WHOLE THAT I'D LIKE TO MENTION TODAY.

CENTRAL TO ANY CONSIDERATION OF THE FUTURE OF NARACOORTE AND THE OTHER SOUTH EAST TOWNS MUST BE AN ACCURATE ASSESSMENT AND CAREFUL USE OF WATER RESOURCES.

AS YOU KNOW THE MINES DEPARTMENT AND THE ENGINEERING AND WATER SUPPLY DEPARTMENT ARE MAKING A DETAILED INVESTIGATION OF THIS. PRELIMINARY FINDINGS SUGGEST THAT THIS AREA HAS THE RESOURCES TO CATER FOR A POPULATION OF AT LEAST A QUARTER OF A MILLION. AND IT IS OUR FIRM POLICY THAT THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE SOUTH EAST SHALL BE USED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOUTH EAST.

WE WILL ALSO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE PROPERLY USED. LATER THIS WEEK MY COLLEAGUE DES CORCORAN WILL BE MAKING AN IMPORTANT STATEMENT DETAILING THE GOVERNMENT'S POLLUTION CONTROL POLICY FOR THE SOUTH EAST.

AS I SAID, I BELIEVE THIS AREA HAS A GREAT FUTURE. IT'S GOT A LOT GOING FOR IT. ITS GREATEST ASSET I THINK IS THE COMMUNITY SPIRIT THAT PREVAILS HERE - THE KIND OF CO-OPERATIVE VIGOR THAT BUILT THIS YOUTH CENTRE.

IT'S A TRIBUTE TO THE WHOLE COMMUNITY AND PARTICULARLY TO THE
HARD WORK AND IMAGINATION OF HARRY PEAKE AND HIS COMMITTEE AND
WILL I'M SURE BE ENJOYED BY THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF NARACOORTE FOR
YEARS TO COME. I HAVE VERY MUCH PLEASURE IN OFFICIALLY DECLARING
IT OPEN.

THANK YOU.